



PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 47113-5091

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Anna STIGENBERG HULTIN et al.) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Application No.: 10/584,079) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Filed: June 22, 2006) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)
Title: A STAINLESS STEEL STRIP)
COATED WITH A DECORATIVE)
LAYER)

Commissioner for Patents

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Customer Window Mail Stop: ☒ Amendment ☐ AF ☐ Reissue

Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

☒ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the undersigned's knowledge, this IDS is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after filing an RCE under § 1.114, or within three months of the application filing date.

☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or another action that closes prosecution in the application.

☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in § 1.17(p) is included herein; or

☐ Applicant submits that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(c) but before payment of the issue fee.

☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in § 1.17(p) is included herein; and

☐ Applicant submits that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(i), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(d). Applicant requests that the IDS be placed in the file.

☒ An International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) dated June 26, 2006 and International Search Report dated April 6, 2005 or other listing of documents from a counterpart, related, or other application and having documents cited thereon is attached for the Examiner's consideration. Any of these documents not previously cited, and any additional documents are listed on the PTO Form 1449.

☒ Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. As for any document listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 that is in a language other than English, relevance can be understood from an enclosed English abstract or at least partial translation or from mention in the specification or in a search report for a corresponding application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that any of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this Application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required and including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeffrey G. Killian

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Dated: August 23, 2006

CUSTOMER NO. 055694

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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PTO Form 1449

Attorney Docket No.

47113-5091

Application No.:

10/584,079

Applicant(s):

Anna STIGENBERG HULTIN et al.

Page 1 of 1

Filing Date:

June 22, 2006

Group Art Unit:

Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	4,622,919	November 18, 1986	<i>Suzuki et al.</i>	-	-	
	4,763,601	August 16, 1988	<i>Saida et al.</i>	-	-	
	5,429,843	July 4, 1995	<i>Masaki et al.</i>	-	-	
	5,510,012	April 23, 1996	<i>Schultz et al.</i>	-	-	
	6,197,438	March 6, 2001	<i>Faulkner</i>	-	-	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO
EP 0 353 060 B1	January 31, 1990	Europe			
EP 0 416 887 A2	March 13, 1991	Europe			
EP 1 033 416 A1	September 6, 2000	Europe			
KR 9500308	January 13, 1995	Korea			Abstract Only
GB 1 471 977	April 27, 1977	United Kingdom			
JP 2-122064	May 9, 1990	Japan			Abstract
JP 4-301068	October 23, 1992	Japan			Abstract
JP 4-193968	July 14, 1994	Japan			Abstract
WO 93/07303	April 15, 1993	PCT			
WO 2005/014876 A1	February 17, 2005	PCT			
WO 2005/014877 A1	February 17, 2005	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	B. Schuhmacher et al., "Innovative steel strip coatings by means of PVD in a continuous pilot line: process technology and coating development", Surface and Technology, 163-164, pp. 703-709 (2003).

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.